Postgraduate Opportunities
2021

Architecture & Landscape Architecture, Art, Design, History of Art & Music

www.eca.ed.ac.uk
Top 50

We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 20th in the 2021 QS World University Rankings.

19th

We’re ranked 19th in the world’s most international universities¹. Since 2010, we have taught students from 160 countries.

4th

We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.¹

Top 100

We’re ranked in the top 10 in the UK and in the top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates.³

7th

Edinburgh is ranked the seventh best student city in Europe and 15th in the world.⁴

19

There are 19 Nobel Prize winners who are alumni of the University or who have been members of academic staff here.

Online leader

Edinburgh is one of the largest providers of online postgraduate programmes in the UK.

† Times Higher Education, The World’s Most International Universities 2020
‡ Times Higher Education, Overall Ranking of Institutions
§ Times Higher Education, Global Employability University Ranking 2019
* QS Best Student Cities 2019
Open to the world

We’re open to the world today so we can influence the world tomorrow. The University brings people with new ideas and perspectives together in a spirit of interdisciplinary innovation and collaboration. This has already shaped the world in so many ways, from the great thinkers of the Scottish Enlightenment, to the discovery of the Higgs boson particle and the development of a genetically engineered vaccine for Hepatitis B. Our 21 Schools, across three academic Colleges, embody our approach.
About Edinburgh College of Art

Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) is internationally recognised and is situated at the heart of one of Europe’s most vibrant and creative capital cities.

We comprise the School of Art, the School of Design, Edinburgh School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture (ESALA), the School of History of Art and the Reid School of Music. At postgraduate level we offer exciting opportunities for collaboration across these subject areas, knowledge exchange with the industrial and cultural sectors, and partnerships with local, national and international groups, events and institutions.

Research excellence
We performed exceptionally well in the last Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014). Across all of our submissions, 100 per cent of our research environment profile ratings were either 4* world leading or 3* internationally excellent. In art and design: history, practice and theory, we were ranked seventh in the UK for research power (Research Fortnight REF 2014). In music, drama, dance and performing arts we were ranked in the UK top 20 for both research quality and research power (Research Fortnight REF 2014). In our joint submission with Heriot-Watt University for architecture, built environment and planning 73 per cent of our research was ranked 4* world leading or 3* internationally excellent on the overall quality profile.

A world-leading learning experience
As a postgraduate student at ECA, you will be able to take advantage of a vast array of opportunities for interdisciplinary study and creativity across a wide range of lectures, workshops and seminars in our impressive studios and learning space.

Situated in the UNESCO World Heritage site of Edinburgh’s Old Town, ECA offers some of the largest working spaces of any UK art college, with many of our studios enjoying uninterrupted views of Edinburgh Castle and across the city – truly, an inspiring place to begin the next stage of your creative journey.

Our world-leading teaching staff will inspire you to create work of the highest quality, in a cosmopolitan environment that is stimulating, supportive, flexible and challenging. We foster quality and distinctiveness in our students’ work, mixing traditional skills and new technologies. We are committed to delivering a flexible, imaginative education and want you to make the most of your talents and to realise your potential. If you want to be challenged, are passionate about your work and want to develop skills and innovative thinking, then this is the place for you.
Our community

With more than 800 postgraduate students at work across a vast range of subjects, in architecture and landscape architecture, art, design, history of art and music, you will experience university life as part of a supportive graduate community.

Students join us from across the globe, making the experience here particularly international in character. As a world-leading research environment, Edinburgh ranked 11th in the world for arts and humanities in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020. We have a large cohort of scholars in history of art, architecture, music, fine art and design. Our staff engage in global research partnerships and collaborative artistic projects that augment the international standing and reach of our work. We boast a thriving peer group involved in diverse activities ranging from student-led conferences and seminars to hosting musical concerts, and travelling to present at overseas institutions; from cross-disciplinary project work with the Schools of Mathematics, Informatics or Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences, to taking part in internships in the National Gallery or the National Museum. The highly stimulating environment at ECA is enhanced by visiting lecturers and practitioners, including artists, gallerists, curators, designers, filmmakers, scientists, musicians, writers and poets, giving students an invaluable insight into the processes and concerns of other disciplines.

Knowledge exchange

With a passion for making interesting things happen, and a willingness to participate, staff and students at ECA share a very strong sense of community. For example, the School of Art contributes to Edinburgh’s contemporary art sector in the form of knowledge exchange agreements, working closely with galleries including the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, the Embassy Gallery, Collective, the Talbot Rice Gallery, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art and Deveron Arts. ECA staff enable students to work with our partners on shared practical, theoretical and curatorial concerns. By shadowing staff programmes, students benefit directly from their research as well as from the considerable resources and experience of partner institutions we work with. Postgraduates exhibit their work in the University’s own Talbot Rice Gallery, the Embassy Gallery and Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop as well as in other venues in and beyond Scotland.

Societies and events

There are many student societies at the University covering all of our subject areas, including a wealth of music societies. Subject-specific, student-run societies, such as the Edinburgh University Student Architecture Society, are open to students at all levels. In addition, the School of Art supports Relay, a student-run society for contemporary art established by our postgraduate students to develop a programme of exhibitions, talks and events, and to run their own press.

Students make regular applications for funding and exhibition opportunities as part of their studies. Many have been selected for major residencies, exhibitions and prizes, such as Bloomberg New Contemporaries and CuratorLab. Students are encouraged to join the Embassy Gallery, Generator Projects, Transmission Gallery, the International Association of Art Critics, the College Art Association and the Scottish Artists Union.

Collaboration

All our subject areas invite prominent artists, critics, curators and scholars to deliver research seminar talks throughout the two teaching semesters. Visitors also run workshops and lead critiques for our masters students. For the School of Art, the Embassy Gallery runs a professional development programme for our students that features regular guests.

Our students of fashion and textiles benefit from the successful interdisciplinary collaborations taking place at all levels both within the College and through our relationship with the Scottish textiles and fashion industry. We also promote key links with National Museums Scotland and the National Galleries of Scotland. Students are also supported in finding work placements during their studies.

Students’ successes

Illustrations by our postgraduates have been published widely in books and other publications. Our postgraduates are also encouraged to take part in national and international competitions, and have previously exhibited and won prizes at Image Nation, the Association of Illustrators Awards and the V&A Student Illustration Awards.

The Reid School of Music hosts Tuesday lunch hour concerts during semester time, and Friday lunch hour organ recitals, where wide participation is encouraged.

Our film students regularly win awards at international festivals as well as Royal Television Society Awards and BAFTAs. You will also have the benefit of working alongside the Scottish Documentary Institute (SDI), with opportunities to attract international funders through SDI’s Edinburgh Pitch event, and to develop work opportunities following graduation. One of our recent graduates was shortlisted for an Oscar nomination.

Many of our programmes, such as MA/MFA Art, Space & Nature, have an active exhibition culture showing students’ work in Scotland and in international contexts. ESALA benefits from its recently established projects office, which acts as a link between academic research, including design practice, and external organisations. Our MSc Advanced Sustainable Design programme includes active community involvement and exhibitions. Our students are active in establishing outward-facing projects through our Agenda 25 group, which enables them to engage in promoting shelter as a basic human right. ESALA hosts a series of open lecture programmes that include the Edinburgh University Student Architecture Society lecture series which brings to Edinburgh both established and emerging design practitioners. Our Prokalo seminar series is run by our postgraduate community and hosts a wide spectrum of academic researchers.
**Employability and graduate attributes**

At ECA we believe it is essential to equip you with all the right skills to carry out the highest quality research and to step into the career path of your choice.

In addition to your chosen postgraduate degree, we can offer you short courses on standard skills such as presentation techniques, report writing and different research methods, as well as IT refresher courses. As an ECA student, you will also have access to language courses you may require for reading scripts in their original language, and depending on your area of study, we will provide you with induction courses in machine use, hand-tool use and model-making, as well as guidance on health and safety issues. Many of our postgraduate degrees involve internships as part of the learning experience, which equip you not only with a wider skillset, but also a dynamic list of contacts for future work.

Such is the wide range of programmes on offer from ECA, potential employment can be drawn from a vast number of industries. Opportunities open to you after graduating from ECA include architecture, art, curating, design, fashion, film, marketing, TV and media, music and teaching. See the descriptions of our individual programmes online for further examples of where an ECA education can take your career.

**Institute for Academic Development**

All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online: [www.ed.ac.uk/idad/postgraduates](http://www.ed.ac.uk/idad/postgraduates)

For taught postgraduates, IAD provides a popular study-related and transferrable skills support programme. It is designed to help you settle into postgraduate life, succeed during your studies and move confidently to the next stage of your career. We offer on-campus and online workshops and one-to-one study skills consultations, plus online advice and learning materials.

Workshops and learning resources cover key topics tailored to different academic stages, including: pre-arrival sessions; getting started with your studies; critical reading, writing and thinking; managing your exams; and planning for and writing up your dissertation.

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferrable-skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The workshop programme is designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from getting started with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva, as well as developing personal and professional skills that can be transferred to your future employment. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get your research started, as well as support for tutoring and demonstrating, and public engagement and communication.

**Careers Service**

Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We provide a high-quality, tailored provision to both undergraduate and postgraduate students and support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from Employ.ed internships to graduate posts and from careers fairs to postgraduate alumni events, we will help you prepare for the future.

We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world’s top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh.

Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information: [www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad](http://www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad)

**Platform One**

We provide opportunities for students to draw on the knowledge and experience of our worldwide alumni network through lectures, workshops and panel discussions, and online via Platform One. This supportive environment allows students, alumni, staff and volunteers to gather to share their knowledge and experiences and discuss ideas, plans and possibilities.

More information: [www.ed.ac.uk/platform-one](http://www.ed.ac.uk/platform-one)

**Open to new ideas**

If you consider yourself something of an entrepreneur, you’ll be interested to know that Edinburgh is an entrepreneurial city, home to two of the UK’s $1 billion-valued unicorn companies. We boast one of the most entrepreneurial student bodies in the UK and have helped students launch nearly 100 startups in the last two years. One in five of those startups was a social enterprise. Edinburgh Innovations, the University’s commercialisation service, offers free support to student entrepreneurs including one-to-one business advice and a range of workshops, bootcamps, competitions and networking events. Successful recent clients include Orléans Boteas, creator of the Dehumaniser sound effects software used by Hollywood movies and blockbuster video games; Douglas Martin, whose company MiAlgae aims to revolutionise the global aquaculture and pet food industries; and Aayush Goyal and Karis Gill, whose gift box enterprise Social Stories Club brings ethical products to a wider market: [www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations/for-students](http://www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations/for-students)

More than 7,000 vacancies were advertised with the Careers Service in 2019/20.
Open to the world

International sustainable fashion prize success

Alumna Maddie Williams, a 2017 BA (Hons) Fashion graduate, won first prize in last year’s Redress Design Award.

Hundreds of designers in 43 different countries initially entered the 2019 awards and Maddie was one of just ten finalists invited to exhibit at the Grand Final in Hong Kong. More than 1,000 fashion industry experts attended the event, which shone a spotlight on the global textile waste crisis.

Award organisers Redress are an environmental charity focused on educating designers. They say 80 per cent of a product’s environmental impact is laid down at the design stage.

Maddie’s designs apply up-cycling and reconstruction techniques to reclaimed textiles. Her winning collection explored the loss of biodiversity, planetary health and our humanity.

As part of her prize, Maddie will now work with fashion brand REVERB, one of China’s largest fashion houses, to create an original new collection.

“Taking my catwalk competition collection into a commercial up-cycled collection will be a steep learning curve and I’ll be trying my best to keep sustainable, circular principles at the core of what I do. This is our time to tackle the environmental problems that we have inherited – we won’t get another chance!”

Maddie Williams
BA (Hons) Fashion graduate
Artwork in space

The art of a Chilean ECA alumnus was sent into space in March as part of the Sojourner 2020 international artwork project.

Bioarchitectures: diatoms in space by Luis Guzmán, who graduated from our Art, Space & Nature degree in 2019, was launched from Cape Canaveral on board the SpaceX Falcon 9 CRS-20 mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

Luis is one of just nine artists chosen for inclusion in the Sojourner 2020 project. The exhibits were chosen by the MIT Media Lab Space Exploration Initiative from the first international open call for artwork to be sent to the ISS.

Luis used his project to critically explore the possibility of expanding terrestrial life beyond the Earth and to ask about the implications that gravity has over the evolutionary process of life.

The Sojourner 2020 payload consisted of a three-layer telescoping structure in which each layer rotated independently. This rotation was used to create different strengths of artificial gravity with the top layer of the payload remaining still and weightless while the middle and bottom layers mimicked lunar and martian levels of gravity respectively.

Luis used this feature to send Phaeodactylum Tricornutum diatoms to the ISS under zero and Martian gravity conditions and see how that affected their morphological transformation compared to a control set of diatoms remaining on Earth. Guzman believes that future ecosystems will emerge from a combination of biological adaptation and biotechnological design changing the way all species, including humans, look.

Diatoms are responsible for the production of 30 per cent of terrestrial oxygen on Earth and have a silica structure that allows them to better resist UV radiation during space travel.

“The colonisation of extraterrestrial habitats must be understood as an evolutionary and transformative process where life as we know it will be dramatically changed, giving origin to entirely new evolutionary lines.”

Luis B. Guzman
Art, Space & Nature graduate

Bringing music to the community

An ECA team led by Senior Lecturer Dee Isaacs has travelled to Greece to use music to help displaced children form communicative and emotional connections.

The team ran daily workshops for various age groups, ranging from six months to 14 years, at a refugee camp in Leros and at Pikpa, a disused hospital now used as a refuge. They also ran an art club and performed for parents.

As well as working directly with the children, they helped train local professional musicians and teachers so they could continue running the workshops after our team returned home.

Dee combines her teaching skills and compassion for others, travelling to areas of unrest and bringing music to marginalised people in education and social sectors. She trains local teachers and psychologists to work with music and the creative arts to relieve trauma among displaced children and their families.

“The desperate situation in Greece really struck me. There is not much we can do as artists but these children are the future and it is so important they have the opportunity to just be children and to enjoy playing, singing, sharing, imagining.”

Dee Isaacs
Senior Lecturer in Music
Innovators in education

The partnership which created the Shanghai International College of Fashion and Innovation (SCF) has won a prestigious international award.

Our collaboration with Donghua University, Shanghai and the Confucius Institute won the China-Britain Business Council’s Innovators in Education award. Judges commended the extent of the cooperation and partnership that underpinned the development of SCF.

Since 2014, we have worked with Donghua University to strengthen our international relationships, share expertise and improve the educational opportunities available. This led to our first cohort of direct entry students from SCF to ECA, who graduated in 2019. Direct entry into third year is an option for SCF students as a part of our collaboration.

The Donghua Edinburgh Centre for Creative Industries (DECCI) – which is hosted by the Confucius Institute and Donghua University – also organises and promotes activities including the annual Fringe fashion show From Shanghai with Love, a summer school programme, and a lecture series.

“The news of the award is testament to the strong bonds ECA holds with our global neighbours and partners. Collaborations such as DECCI and the Shanghai International College of Fashion and Innovation provide great opportunities for us to remain truly international and to strengthen our links across the world.”

Professor Juan Cruz
ECA Principal

ECA’s prizewinning landscape quintet

Five landscape architecture graduates from ECA have won prizes from the prestigious Landscape Institute Scotland.

Jennifer Jones, Yun Liu, Athena Preen, Clara Elliot and Marion Lindqvist all produced impressive individual work that wowed the judges.

Jennifer Jones and Yun Liu shared the Best Portfolio Prize, while Athena Preen and Clara Elliot were jointly awarded the Peter Daniels Prize for best skills in site analysis. Elliot achieved a double win, also sharing the Best Student Prize with Marion Lindqvist.

For their submissions, the quintet had a choice of three unique Scottish sites that included rural, island and post-industrial qualities and the option of collaborating on the Manhattan Project with the School of Architecture.

Athena Preen produced a study of Garnock Valley across a series of drawings while Jennifer Jones utilised areas of derelict land within the valley, caused by industrial decline, for her work Landscape as a Catalyst.

Marion Lindqvist reimagined Ardeer Island Nature Park for her submission and Clara Elliot’s work, which included a piece called Unravelling Dounreay, arose from a critical enquiry of Scotland’s problematic North Coast 500, a 516-mile road trip that attracts tourists but creates issues for residents.

Yun Liu said his portfolio of work explored the relationship between people and their environment: “I’ve been gradually developing a more sophisticated approach to human and landscape interrelationships as well as considering the important responsibility a landscape architect holds.”
Brexit-inspired doomsday bunker wins Glenfiddich residency

Scotland’s largest prize for an emerging artist has been won by an ECA alumna.

Gabrielle Gillott, who graduated from MA Fine Art in 2019, won the 2020 Glenfiddich Residency Award and its £10,000 prize. The award was announced at the Royal Scottish Academy (RSA) New Contemporaries exhibition, which showcases recent graduates of Scotland’s art colleges.

For her winning artwork, Gabrielle was inspired by American doomsday preppers’ bunkers and by reports of people in the UK stockpiling food and household items to prepare for the possibility of a no-deal Brexit.

Gabrielle initially constructed a bunker for her degree show in 2019 and painted everything in the bunker in a shade of purple called Safe Haven.

For the RSA New Contemporaries exhibition, she expanded this idea to create a three-room bunker installation at the RSA Galleries on the Mound in Edinburgh, titled Reading Room, Hidey Hole, Secret Room.

The Glenfiddich Residency means Gabrielle, who is originally from Sheffield and now works in installation, sculpture and film, will join artists from around the world and focus on creating new work during a three-month funded residency at the Glenfiddich Distillery in Dufftown, Moray.

“The boldness and professionalism of Gabrielle’s installation drew the attention of our selection panel. Gabrielle creates environments reminiscent of Cold War-era bunkers, reimagined through an aesthetic of 3D computer modelling, perfectly encapsulating a zeitgeist of uncertain times.”

Andy Fairgrieve  
Coordinator of the Glenfiddich Artists in Residence programme
Our teaching

Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) offers a range of taught postgraduate qualifications: MSc, MA, MFA, MArch, MMus and MLA.

They all give you the opportunity to pursue an area of interest in greater depth, or to develop more specialised skills to further your career. They will also equip you with the skills necessary to pursue further research.

A Master of Science (MSc) is a widely recognised postgraduate qualification, indicating masters-level study, usually over a one-year period and culminating in a dissertation, project or portfolio.

A Master of Music (MMus) and a Master of Architecture (MArch) are specific postgraduate qualifications indicating masters-level study within music and architecture respectively. Similarly a Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is awarded for landscape architecture.

Additionally at ECA a significant number of our postgraduate degrees culminate in either an MA (Master of Art) or an MFA (Master of Fine Art). The key difference is that the MA runs for one year (two semesters plus the summer period for project work) and the MFA runs for two years (over four semesters). Most offer progression routes from the MA to the MFA.

Although our postgraduate degrees are associated with and managed by individual schools within ECA, some have an embedded, cross-disciplinary pedagogy. For example, the MSc Material Practice, delivered jointly by Edinburgh School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture (ESALA) and the School of Design, is intended for students from a variety of disciplines.

At the time of printing, our planned taught degrees for 2021 are:

Art degrees
- Contemporary Art Practice (MA)
- Contemporary Art Theory (MA)

Design degrees
- Design for Change (MA)
- Design Informatics (MA/MFA)
- Film Directing (MA/MFA)
- Graphic Design (MA/MFA)
- Illustration (MA)
- Interior Architecture & Spatial Design (MA)

Edinburgh School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture (ESALA) degrees
- Advanced Sustainable Design (MSc)
- Architectural & Urban Design (MSc)
- Architectural Conservation (MSc)
- Architectural History & Theory (MSc)
- Architecture (ARB/RIBA Part 2) (MArch)
- Design & Digital Media (MSc)
- Digital Media Design (MSc)
- European Masters in Landscape Architecture (EMLA)
- Landscape Architecture (MLA)
- Landscape & Wellbeing (MSc)
- Urban Strategies & Design (MSc)

History of Art degrees
- History of Art, Theory & Display (MSc)
- Modern & Contemporary Art: History, Curating & Criticism (MSc)

Music degrees
- Acoustics & Music Technology (MSc)
- Musicology (MMus)
- Sound Design (MSc)

Online learning

Please check our online degree finder for the most up-to-date information available on our taught postgraduate opportunities and to make an application:
www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees
Facilities
and resources

At ECA we offer all our postgraduate students access to studio areas and hotdesks. Additional study areas for ECA students include any number of environments, from bench to specialist technical facilities to the great outdoors.

We encourage our students to embrace the interdisciplinary methods of our teaching, so whatever you register for when you begin your study, you may find yourself working with colleagues in a great range of places and using any of our impressive facilities. The University is investing in the ECA estate and facilities to further develop our flexible, stimulating, supportive and sustainable learning and research environment for students and staff.

Below is a summary of the tools you will have at your fingertips:

- Drawing studios, machine workshops and individual studio space for specific programmes;
- Comprehensive workshop facilities for architectural model-making;
- Bookbinding and printing facilities;
- Access to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh’s resources and collections;
- Surround-sound, purpose-built music studios for mixing and production;
- Historical musical instrument collections;
- Access to national and international theatres and dance, film, TV and opera companies;
- Digital and analogue darkrooms and full-length portraiture photography studios;
- Dedicated sculpture and art studios, which can also be used as exhibition space;
- Industry-standard recording equipment for music and film;
- A sound lab with fully equipped individual workstations;
- Our neo-classical sculpture court for exhibitions and events;
- Mac and PC computer suites providing the latest software for design, digital imaging, video editing, scanning and printing.
Research at Edinburgh College of Art

Join our large and diverse postgraduate research community.

Postgraduate researchers are the future scholars of the arts and future cultural leaders; they are at the centre of life of ECA’s research disciplines and are the pioneers of new interdisciplinary research. Numbering 250 research students, our highly internationally-diverse postgraduate community works closely together and with staff on projects focused in and across all five of our main subject areas – art, architecture, design, music, and history of art. Some research projects are entirely practice-based, some combine practice and theoretical study, and some are entirely historical and theoretical. This rich mix makes for exciting dialogue between students in workshops, seminars and in our dedicated study spaces.

Staff in ECA conduct research in all kinds of forms, many of which include opportunities for research student involvement. There are five research centres and nearly fifty research groups. There is a lively programme of research talks and seminars, conferences and events open to – or indeed organised by – research students, through which research is presented, developed and tested. For more information, see: www.eca.ed.ac.uk/research

Fundamental to our approach is ensuring that you receive appropriate guidance during your degree. At the centre of our research student experience is the supervisory team. You will work with a principal supervisor and up to two others who will support you throughout your degree, ensuring that your project is on track and has realistic aims, and that you have the skills you need to complete it. You will be required to attend a suitable research methods course; we make sure our students consider their individual training needs and sign them up for related courses and events.

We work closely with other partners including the University’s Institute for Academic Development, the Scottish Graduate School for the Arts and Humanities and the Scottish Graduate School for the Social Sciences, discussing wider provision of training for research students. You can apply to ECA for funding each year that will contribute to the costs for training, conference presentations and research trips. The Scottish Graduate Schools also provide funding for training events that bring together students from across the country.

Studying for a research degree is a big commitment. As a creative and critically engaged community, ECA offers a space for experimentation, innovation and rigorous academic research. We are located in a capital city with remarkable cultural facilities including national museums, a national library, leading contemporary visual arts galleries including the Talbot Rice Gallery, and a rolling programme of major international festivals. There are many opportunities for you to collaborate and participate. Many of our research staff, and a significant number of our research students, work directly with external partners across Scotland and beyond. We hope you will join us.

Research opportunities
We offer three types of research degree:

PhD
As a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidate you pursue a research project under continuous guidance, resulting in a thesis that makes an original contribution to knowledge. You will gain specialist background knowledge for your intended research, and develop the skills to research in that field.

MPhil
The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) resembles a PhD but generally takes two years instead of three and does not carry the same requirement for original contribution to knowledge. You pursue your individual research project under supervision, submitting your thesis at the end of the project.

MSc by Research
An MSc by Research is based on a research project tailored to your interests. It lasts one year if studying full-time. The project can be a shorter alternative to an MPhil or PhD, or a precursor to either – including the option of an MSc project expanding into MPhil or PhD work as it evolves.

At the time of printing, our planned postgraduate research opportunities for 2021 are:

- Architectural History (PhD/MPhil)
- Architecture (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- Architecture by Design (PhD)
- Art (PhD/MPhil)
- Collections & Curating Practices (MScR)
- Creative Music Practice (PhD)
- Cultural Studies (PhD/MScR)
- Design (PhD/MPhil)
- History of Art (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- Landscape Architecture (PhD/MPhil)
- Music (PhD/MScR)
- Musical Composition (PhD)
- Sound Design (MScR)

Please check our online degree finder for the most up-to-date information available on our postgraduate research opportunities and to make an application.

Research degree index:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees/research

PhD research projects:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/phd-research-projects

Advice on finding a research supervisor:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/research

General enquiries
Tel +44 (0)131 651 5736
Email ecaresearchdegrees@ed.ac.uk
“Studying at the University of Edinburgh encouraged me to approach critical thinking through independent research, while benefiting immensely from the excellent faculty and community within the School.”

David Fortin, PhD Architecture
Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate

Awards are offered by Edinburgh College of Art, the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, the University of Edinburgh, the Scottish, UK and international governments and many funding bodies.

Here we list a selection of potential sources of financial support for postgraduate students applying to Edinburgh College of Art. This list was correct at the time of printing but please check the full and up-to-date range online (see above).

University of Edinburgh Alumni Scholarships
We offer a 10 per cent scholarship towards postgraduate fees to all alumni who graduated from the University as an undergraduate, and to all students who spent at least one semester studying at the University on a visiting programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/alumni-scholarships

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

• Andrew Grant Postgraduate Scholarships ● ● ●
ECA offers a number of Andrew Grant postgraduate scholarships to taught masters and masters by research students each year: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/andrew-grant

• Bucher-Fraser Scholarships ●
One scholarship available to PhD applicants applying to study on a full-time basis within the Reid School of Music: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/bucher

• College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Awards ●
College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Awards are open to those admitted to the first year of PhD research: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-ahss

• Edinburgh College of Art PhD Scholarships ●
ECA offers a number of scholarships to PhD applicants each year: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/eca-scholarships

• Edinburgh Global Online Learning Masters Scholarships ●
The University offers a number of awards, for postgraduate online programmes, which eligible students can apply for: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/e-learning/online-distance

• Jean Kennoway Howells Scholarships ●
One scholarship available to taught masters applicants applying to study on a full-time basis within the Reid School of Music: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/howells

• The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program ●
Up to 50 postgraduate scholarships for on-campus and online masters study with transformative leadership training are available. Applicants should usually reside in and be citizens of a sub-Saharan African country. On-campus scholarships cover full tuition fees, accommodation and maintenance. Applicants should apply to the scholarship directly: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/mastercardfdn

• Principal’s Career Development PhD Scholarships ●
These prestigious scholarships give access to any applicant from around the world to undertake discipline training and additional skills development. Students are encouraged to engage with entrepreneurial training, teaching, outreach and industrial engagement. Each award covers the tuition fee and full stipend: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

Research Council (UKRI) funding
The UKRI offers awards to PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All studentship applications for UKRI awards must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Normally only those UK students who have been resident in the UK for the preceding three years are eligible for a full award. Please check individual UKRI pages on the University website for full eligibility criteria: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

“The scholarships have provided me with a wonderful opportunity to study at a premier institution. I wish to work in academia in the future and so my PhD will provide me with the necessary training and qualification to allow me to meet my goals.”

Shruti Chaudhry, PhD Sociology, Edinburgh Global Research Scholarship and College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Studentship
Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh
The University of Edinburgh is a participating institution in the following loans programmes, meaning we certify your student status and can help with the application process.

- The Canada Student Loans Program
  The University is eligible to certify Canadian student loan applications: [www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans)

- Postgraduate Doctoral Loans England
  Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for doctoral study, payable to eligible students and divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: [www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan](http://www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan)

- Postgraduate Doctoral Loans Wales
  Student Finance Wales offers loans for postgraduate doctoral study, payable to eligible students, divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/postgraduate-students/postgraduate-doctoral-loan](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/postgraduate-students/postgraduate-doctoral-loan)

- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) England
  Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes, payable to eligible students: [www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan](http://www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan)

- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Northern Ireland
  Student Finance Northern Ireland offers eligible students a tuition fee loan for taught and research programmes, at certificate, diploma, and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University: [www.studentfinanceni.co.uk](http://www.studentfinanceni.co.uk)

- Postgraduate Loans (SAAS)
  The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes at diploma and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University. Eligible students can also apply for a non-income assessed living cost loan: [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)

- Postgraduate Master's Finance Wales
  Student Finance Wales offers eligible students postgraduate finance for taught and research masters programmes: [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk)

- US Student Loans
  The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan students. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: [www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans)

Other sources of funding
The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- Chevening Scholarships
  A number of partial and full funding scholarships are available to one-year masters students: [www.chevening.org](http://www.chevening.org)

- Commonwealth Scholarships
  Scholarships available to students who are resident in any Commonwealth country, other than the UK: [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)

- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
  Scholarships available to outstanding US students wishing to study at any UK university for at least two years: [www.marshallscholarship.org](http://www.marshallscholarship.org)
Where we are

Edinburgh College of Art’s main building is in Lauriston Place, close to Edinburgh Castle at the west of the city centre. Other ECA buildings are close by, in the University’s Central Area.

Detailed maps can be found at: www.ed.ac.uk/maps
What's next?

**Contact us**
For all enquiries regarding our taught degrees, email ecapgtdegrees@ed.ac.uk

For all enquiries regarding our research degrees, email ecaresearchdegrees@ed.ac.uk

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To discuss your PhD proposal, you should identify and contact potential supervisors: www.eca.ed.ac.uk/people

**Visit us**
We offer many opportunities for you to join us in Edinburgh and find out more about the University – including Online Information Sessions to access from the comfort of your own home and Open Days you can attend in person or online. Find out what event we’re hosting next: www.ed.ac.uk/visit/open-days

**Virtual Visit**
Can’t visit Edinburgh in person? Our Virtual Visit allows you to virtually explore the University and the city. View a range of videos, 360° photos and image galleries to find out what it is like to live and study here:
www.virtual-visit.ed.ac.uk

**Chat online**
Wherever you are in the world, we offer you opportunities to get in touch and speak directly to us about studying here.

We offer all postgraduate students online information sessions. To find out more and see when the next session will be:
www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/online-events

**Our visits to you**
If you are unable to visit the University, we attend events worldwide whenever possible during the year. Find out about your next opportunity to speak to us in person:
www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/meet-us
We know these are uncertain times but at the University of Edinburgh your safety is our priority. We hope to welcome you on campus and are committed to ensuring you’re taught as safely as possible during the pandemic. To find out about the steps we’re taking, in line with Scottish Government guidance, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/news/covid-19

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The UK formally left the European Union (EU) on 31st January 2020. UK and Scottish Governments have confirmed that most non-UK EU students commencing study in 2021/22 will no longer be treated as ‘home’ students in relation to fee status or access to funding. Final fee regulations are not yet available but are expected to clarify fee status for those with settled status and for Irish citizens (under the Common Travel Agreement).

For the latest information for students and applicants from the EU, please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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"What makes Edinburgh so unique is that the quality of teaching is really superb, the city itself is so full of art, and there are so many opportunities in Edinburgh that you would not get anywhere else."

Emily Stoller-Patterson
MSc Modern & Contemporary Art: History, Curating & Criticism